

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OSLO 01526 030811Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5547
INFO SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 1526

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, PINT, PEPR, NO, OVIP (BROWN, HAROLD)
SUBJECT: SECDEF'S VISIT: TALKING POINTS PAPER: USE OF US
MARINES IN REINFORCING NORWAY

1. NORWEGIAN DEFENSE (SEE SEPARATE MESSAGE ON REINFORCEMENT)
IS BASED ON SIGNIFICANT EXTERNAL REINFORCEMENTS. TO
DATE ONLY THE BRITISH AND THE CANADIANS HAVE DESIGNED
ANY GROUND FORCES FOR THIS ROLE. WE UNDERSTAND AND THE
NORWEGIANS HAVE HEARD THAT THE USG IS CONSIDERING THE
FORWARDING STATIONING OF A MARINE AMPHIBIOUS BRIGADE OR
OTHER ELEMENTS OF THE MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE IN THE UK.
THEIR POSSIBLE DESIGNATION AS REINFORCEMENTS FOR NORWAY
HAS, NEEDLESS TO SAY, STRUCK A VERY RESPONSIVE AND
SYMPATHETIC CHORD IN NORWAY. IN ADDITION, THE USMC HAS BEEN
SENDING INCREASING NUMBERS OF MARINES TO NORWAY FOR TRAINING.
ALSO IN THE COB CONTEXT, THE GON HAS NOTED THAT THE MARINE
CORPS HAS AS ONE OF ITS CONTINGENCY REINFORCEMENT PLANS
A COMBINED AIR AND ASSAULT ROLE THAT WOULD MAKE USE OF SEVERAL
ALREADY SURVEYED NORWEGIAN AIR BASES AS STAGING OPERATING
POINTS. THEREFORE, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE INTEREST AND
IN FACT ANTICIPATION BEING FELT IN NORWEGIAN DEFENSE
CIRCLES ABOUT THE USE OF AMERICAN MARINES IN NORWAY.

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2. IF THE SUBJECT IS RAISED, WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU BE AS
FORTHCOMING AS POSSIBLE AND UNDERScore AGAIN OUR COMMITMENT
TO THE REINFORCEMENT OF NORWAY AND OUR CONSTANT EFFORT
TO FIND WAYS TO ACCOMPLISH THIS ALLIANCE TASK
BETTER AND MORE EFFICIENTLY, AND THAT IT IS IN THIS
CONTEXT THAT THE USE OF THE MARINES IS BEING CONSIDERED
AS WELL AS OTHER ALTERNATIVES.

BREMER

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Message Attributes

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